



# Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico

## NEWS RELEASE

Date: March 4, 2003

### **BIG TRANSPORTATION PLANS FOR THE METRO AREA ARE IN THE WORKS BUT THE FINAL WORD IS UP TO YOU!**

Have A Say In What Traffic Will Look Like In The Year 2025

Following a rigorous process of data collection, analysis, and public involvement, the

Mid-Region Council of Governments is pleased to announce that the

**Draft 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the Urban Area**  
is available for public review.

The purpose of the Plan is to evaluate what the transportation system is like now, examine where and how we're likely to grow as an area, and determine what our transportation system should look like in the future. As the metropolitan planning organization for the area, the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) is responsible for developing a new Plan every three years.

The draft Plan recognizes the transportation projects that are expected to be built between now and 2025. However, "identified needs are expected to outpace revenues by \$380 million," says Lawrence Rael, MRCOG Executive Director. "We have come up with options for addressing this problem and these are laid out in the draft Plan.

### **Public Input About Options**

Rather than make a recommendation to which citizens can simply respond, MRCOG is asking the public to actively participate in discussions about which of these options should be included in the final Plan. The Metropolitan Transportation Board considers citizen input a critical component in its final decision.

### **Public Review Ends April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Two public meetings are being held. The first meeting will be from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2003 at Rio Rancho City Hall, 3900 Southern Boulevard NW. The second will be from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 3, 2003 in the Mid-Region Council of Governments Board Room at 317 Commercial N.E., Albuquerque.

MRCOG is also providing presentations to smaller groups. Community and business groups are encouraged to contact the MRCOG and request a presentation during this important public review period.

For further information contact MRCOG at 247-1750 or by visiting our offices at 317 Commercial NE, Suite 104, Albuquerque, NM.

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